Prova d’esame 1

A) Comprensione di testi scritti
B) Conoscenza e uso della lingua

INGLES
Prova d’esame 1

Lunedì, 30 maggio 2011 / 80 minuti (40 + 40)

Al candidato sono consentiti l’uso della penna stilografica o della penna a sfera, della matita HB o B, della gomma e del temperamatite.
Al candidato viene consegnato un foglio per le risposte.

Maturità Generale

INDICAZIONI PER IL CANDIDATO
Leggete con attenzione le seguenti indicazioni.
Non aprite la prova d’esame e non iniziategli a svolgerla prima del via dell’insegnante preposto.
Non è consentito usare la matita per scrivere le risposte all’interno della prova d’esame.
Incollate o scrivete il vostro numero di codice negli spazi appositi su questa pagina in alto a destra e sul foglio per le risposte.
La prova d’esame si compone di due parti, denominate A e B. Il tempo a disposizione per l’esecuzione dell’intera prova è di 80 minuti: vi consigliamo di dedicare 40 minuti alla risoluzione di ciascuna parte della prova.
La prova d’esame contiene 2 esercizi per la parte A e 3 esercizi per la parte B. Potete conseguire fino a un massimo di 20 punti nella parte A e 47 punti nella parte B, per un totale di 67 punti. È prevista l’assegnazione di 1 punto per ciascuna risposta esatta.
Scrivete le vostre risposte negli spazi appositamente previsti all’interno della prova utilizzando la penna stilografica o la penna a sfera. Limitatamente all’esercizio 2 della parte A ricordatevi di compilare anche il foglio per le risposte. Qualora per ciascuna asserzione vengano scelte più risposte, queste ultime verranno valutate con il punteggio di zero (0). Scrivete in modo leggibile. In caso di errore, tracciate un segno sulla risposta scorretta e scrivete accanto ad essa quella corretta. Alle risposte e alle correzioni scritte in modo illeggibile verrà assegnato il punteggio di zero (0).
Abbiate fiducia in voi stessi e nelle vostre capacità. Vi auguriamo buon lavoro.

La prova si compone di 12 pagine, di cui 3 bianche.
A) COMPRENSIONE DI TESTI SCRITTI (Tempo consigliato per la risoluzione: 40 minuti)

TASK 1: SHORT ANSWERS
Answer in note form in the spaces below. Use 1–5 words for each answer.

Example:
0. Who was the trip advertised for?
   ________________
   For grown-up men.

Embracing Ontario’s great outdoors and rediscovering my inner Scout

1. Why was the beginning of the trip untypical of scouts?
   ________________

2. Which hotel facility was most appreciated by the author’s group?
   ________________

3. Why does the word “park” appear unsuitable to describe Algonquin?
   ________________

4. Why was Algonquin Park founded?
   ________________

5. What were the participants given before setting off?
   ________________

6. What kept their spirits up?
   ________________

7. How did they relax their painful limbs?
   ________________

8. Why did the author fail to fully follow Robin’s explanations?
   ________________

9. What was the consequence of the author’s wearing a cheap outfit?
   ________________

10. How did the group try to communicate with the wolves?
    ________________
It has been a long time since I donned my green uniform and talked up my scouting honour so I was a little apprehensive when I was offered a chance to jet off to the Canadian wilderness on a trip billed as a 'Scouts adventure for grown men'.

According to the itinerary we would be exploring the expansive Algonquin Park in Ontario, canoeing and hiking by day and camping and cooking dinner by the bonfire at night.

It sounded too good to pass up so with thoughts of knot-tying, marshmallow roasting and other benign activities that filled my life before I discovered girls – I booked myself in.

A little unsure of what awaited me in the Great Outdoors, I was glad of the opportunity to ease myself in to my adventure gently with a little pre-wilderness luxury at the Deerhurst Resort.

The sumptuous lakeside hotel is set in acres of verdant grounds complete with golf course, swimming pools (indoor and out) and – most importantly for our all-male group – a bar that stayed open until the last person left.

After a maple syrup-heavy breakfast fit for a king we piled into our van and bid farewell to the good life for a few days. It was time for Algonquin Park.

Algonquin can barely be described as a park at all. It is roughly the size of Wales (almost 5,000 square miles) and renowned for its hundreds of freshwater lakes and towering birch and maple forests. It was established as a sanctuary for diverse local wildlife – including man-eating black bears and carnivorous packs of wolves – more than a century ago and the best way to see it all is from a canoe.

Splitting into pairs for our watery outing, I found myself alongside my equally out-of-shape travel buddy who had definitely left his best canoeing days behind him. This was going to be interesting.

After a brief shoreline lesson on paddling, steering and general canoeing etiquette from Robin, our barrel-chested guide, we felt like experts.

Like the young boys we wished we could be, we practically jumped into our canoes as we raced off into the huge expanse of water.

Speeding along I dared to hope that we were fitter than we had first thought, those years of beers and takeaways hadn't taken their toll after all, this was a doddle.

But, within a couple of hundred yards reality set in. As our arms gave up and our lungs exploded we slowed, panting and ground to a near halt. Lesson one: canoeing is a marathon not a sprint.

It took us a while to get into the right rowing rhythm but once we did, it was glorious.

We were never going to turn back the time and become the young adventurers we once were, but gliding over the clean, fresh water and breathing the crisp air was incredibly revitalising.

That evening we hauled our canoes onto the bank to pitch our tents in good time for nightfall. We had just enough light for a bracing swim – the perfect tonic for my aching muscles.

After collecting our own firewood, we managed to get the bonfire going and sit down to a fireside meal of chicken fajitas, prepared from our food barrel. In true Scouts' style we even roasted some marshmallows on a stick for dessert.

Conversation – almost inevitably – turned to bears and wolves. Just what were our chances of coming into contact with these beasts in their local habitat? Remote, we suspected, but that did not stop our guide hanging up the food high on a branch to keep it out of reach of inquisitive bears. I went to bed praying any curious Yogis and Boo Boos would keep well away.

The next morning it was time for the most physically demanding activity of the trip (and my life) – portaging.

Portaging is similar to hiking – but with a four-metre canoe balanced on the shoulders. Robin led the way and chirpily explained about the local flora and fauna as he strolled. All I could do was try and keep up and not whinge about the stinging pain in my shoulders.

And then, when I thought things could not get any worse, the heavens opened. With all the freshwater in the park it does not so much rain in Algonquin, but lash down water from every angle. It was quite an experience. (My main regret was buying such a cheap “waterproof” – mine kept me dry for seconds and wet for hours.) My mood lifted a little later after I had my first encounter with some local wildlife.

Back in the canoe I glimpsed a beaver swimming along just yards from where we were rowing. It had possibly surfaced to have a closer look at us but by the time I had grabbed my camera it had vanished into the murky depths with a plop.

We had the chance to play at being Dr Doolittle after we set up camp on the final night. Robin assured us that wolf packs respond to lupine sounds, so we howled into the blue-black night and waited with bated breath for a reply. After a few seconds we were rewarded with an eerie but beautiful sound as a pack of distant wolves returned our cry. It was totally exhilarating and a great final memory to take from the trip.

In a matter of days the city slickers that had stepped off the plane had been replaced with enthusiastic lads, enchanted by their surroundings. Our muscles may have been punishing us for putting them through more work than they had ever experienced, but we all felt so energised.
Fear of lifts: 'My fear was ruling my life'
Adapted from an article in The Independent, 28 September 2010, by Judith Woods

For years, Deborah Dooley has had a mortal terror of lifts. But could a therapy used to treat conditions from addiction to ME have her pressing the 'up' button?

The second-tallest building in London might seem an unlikely destination for someone who is terrified of lifts. Nevertheless, that's exactly where I was headed six weeks ago, nervous about my coming session with Phil Parker. (0) Defined by Phil Parker as a simple, elegant and powerful process to teach you how to get the life you love, the Lightning Process claims to help with all kinds of disorders. (1) And although I tend to shy away from labels like claustrophobia, I was hoping Parker could help me conquer my pathological fear of lifts, Tube trains and any kind of situation where I feel the slightest bit shut in.

I can't tell you how or why my fear began – and as Parker says, it doesn't really matter. But as far back as I can remember, I have been gripped by panic at the very sight of a lift. For me, the Tube is simply out of the question, and often just talking about either is enough to bring me out in a clammy sweat of anxiety. (2) However, when I do venture into more urban surroundings, it makes life difficult. I've had to ask complete strangers to take my luggage down in an airport lift. And if my room in the hotel I'm staying in is on a high floor, I have to allow extra time for getting there and back. But it was only during my preliminary chat on the phone with Parker that I owned up to being anxious in other situations. (3) "I think I may have been hypnotised," I said to my husband. "But I wasn't in a trance." And although during our face-to-face chat – which was very informal indeed – I was asked to relax and close my eyes, there was never any question of my being any less than fully present.

The fun started almost immediately, when Parker himself greeted me in the rather lavish reception area in order to escort me up the staircase to his 9th floor offices. (4) "I thought you might need a little support – the stairs are quite tight for space," he murmured soothingly. The stairwell was extremely small and narrow, with no natural light. And despite Parker's attempts to reassure me, blind panic soon took over, prompting me to tackle the problem by tearing up the 18 flights at top speed.

I think I realised this was something more than a straightforward treatment for a phobia, when Parker asked me to imagine several very positive situations, one after the other. (5) Or a situation where I had felt in control and competent, a time where I felt my creativity was at a peak, and something or someone that makes me smile. With each, Parker tapped a spot on my hands, and then asked me to do the same, telling me firmly that from now on, whenever I tapped that place, I would get the corresponding feeling back. (6)
The visualisation we embarked on next – of me watching myself standing by a lift – easy to do and not unpleasant. Several times, using words that carefully avoided negative terminology, he asked me how I felt about the whole lift thing on a scale of one to 10. Slowly, the marker on my fear counter nudged its way downwards.

When, finally, Parker asked me how I felt about having a look at a lift, I waited for the chest-leap sensation usually triggered by just the thought of one of those moving boxes. (7___) So far all good, and the next logical step was to get inside one – suddenly not unthinkable any more. Rejecting the first arrival, which had people in it – I hadn't ruled out the possibility of a panic, and didn't want any witnesses – we stepped inside the second. (8___)

Up and down we went, a floor at a time, chatting and tapping my hands to reinforce the positive feelings. Predictably, the more we went up and down, the more relaxed I became. Within 10 minutes, not only had we soared to the 35th floor and sampled its breathtakingly panoramic view, but I had braved a solo journey. (9___) Then I managed to tap my way through a very slight panic triggered by the pause before the doors open.

We finished the session with a rather lovely visualisation of my older, wiser, more coping self. (10___) Then I said my goodbyes, stepped into the lift and pressed the button for the ground floor. During the brief descent, I found myself smiling in amazement and pleasure at the fact that I was so easily accomplishing something which for years, had been unthinkable. I hugged my new-found capability to me with obvious glee.

I think my fear of enclosed spaces will always be with me, but I believe that Parker has effectively furnished me with the means to conquer it whenever I need to. The Lightning Process works by methodically retraining the brain, and especially the subconscious, to overcome illogical feelings of terror, and issue clear instructions that all will be well.

© The Independent
Surfing in Cornwall: The family that hangs ten together...
Adapted from an article in *The Telegraph*, 27 August 2010, by Anna Tyzack

Surf's up at Saunton Sands. Boards are strapped __0__ the roof, beach towels, wet suits and warm jumpers flung into the boot, and we're __1__ to north Devon. We're playing that Beach Boys song *Surfin' USA*, __2__ sounds dated and clichéd – my parents listened to it in the Sixties – but we have no __3__ because the dudes in the front are mum and dad.

Tyzack family watersports weekends are a new concept. __4__ we live just a few miles from the coast, my brother Will and I __5__ did the whole beach thing when we were younger. __6__ teenagers, we dabbled with the surf scene in Polzeath, I suppose, but it was more a case of sporting the Fat Face fleece and sun-streaked hair __7__ occasionally renting a bodyboard.

That might have been it for me and the chilly Atlantic. But then, in August 2006, we went to Jamie Oliver's Fifteen at Watergate Bay in north Cornwall and __8__ was supposed to be a walk on the beach before lunch turned __9__ an hour's body boarding. It was completely unplanned and particularly surprising given __10__ was my father, a 64-year-old circuit judge, who suggested it. We could hardly say __11__, and the waves looked so enticing, dancing away at the end of the sand. This was the first time we'd ever worn wetsuits as a family.

Since then we've __12__ bought our own suits and dad has even invested in a hood, gloves, boots and flippers. My friends get quite a shock when they see him, but he stands by the motto "any fool can be uncomfortable". And to his credit, while mum and I are treading water, __13__ he is, on the crest of the wave, enjoying a "journey" as he calls it.

I'm sure professional surfers must roll their eyes when they __14__ him marching down the sand in all the latest kit, carrying his bodyboard. There's a whole world of Patrick Swayze lookalikes out there __15__ ride point breaks and hang ten. When they're not in the water, they're waxing their boards and watching surf movies. They look at __16__ other, according to surfer and author Robb Havassy, with a knowing glance or nod because they are in a special relationship with the ocean. "We aren't having an affair; it's __17__ just lust," he wrote in last month's *Surfer's Path* magazine. "It's deep. This is love."

But over the past five years Britain's surf scene has become less intimidating for __18__ of us who can't ride grinding barrels.
The gnarly surfers are still out there – they preside over certain beaches in Cornwall known as the "bad lands" – but there's also __19__ cleaner, family-orientated and altogether tamer side to surfing and related watersports.

"It's thrown off its lazy beach bum image," says Pete Atherton, a surf instructor __20__ the Extreme Academy in Watergate Bay. "We're seeing an increasing __21__ of professionals and their families in the water. They want to __22__ the stresses and strains, and lose their pastiness. Surfing is addictive – you always want to catch one more wave – and go home with colour in your cheeks."

Watergate Bay is designed to cater for the new breed. Not __23__ can they wash up for lunch at Fifteen, but they can stay at a boutique hotel and fly __24__ to London from Newquay airport. Other resorts are also providing a more upmarket surf experience. From Sennen Cove in west Cornwall to Saunton Sands in north Devon, surfers can expect good beach __25__ serving fresh local food and quality wine. Hot showers will soon be standard, I expect.
Evolution of malaria is traced back to greatest ape
Adapted from an article in The Independent, 23 September 2010, by Steve Connor

Research may open new avenues of study ___0___ (HALT) disease.

The malaria parasite, which ___1___ (KILL) more people than any other infectious disease so far, almost certainly originated in gorillas ___2___ (INFECT) by a genetically identical microbe, scientists have discovered.

A study of nearly 3,000 biological specimens from wild apes ___3___ (LIVE) in 57 field sites across central Africa has identified the gorillas of the Congo as the most likely source of Plasmodium falciparum, the most deadly malaria parasite in humans.

The findings reject earlier suggestions based on a more limited study that wild chimpanzees were the original source of the human disease, a theory that ___4___ (CAN/DISCOUNT) now, the scientists said.

They suggest that the malaria parasite ___5___ (CROSS) the “species barrier” from gorillas to humans only once as a result of a mosquito bite, causing the global epidemics that have ravaged generations of people throughout history.

The researchers predict identifying the original source of the most dangerous form of malaria ___6___ (PROVIDE) greater knowledge of how to fight its spread and how to improve its treatment.

"Understanding where a human pathogen like Plasmodium falciparum originated can be an important step in learning how to prevent and treat the disease that it causes," said Beatrice Hahn of the University of Alabama, who ___7___ (LEAD) the research team since 2008.

"Like AIDS, malaria is of primate origin. Studies of the primate precursors of HIV have unravelled many aspects of AIDS. I expect the same ___8___ (HAPPEN) when the biology of the gorilla precursor of Plasmodium falciparum is compared to that of its human counterpart," Dr Hahn said.

Malaria, which is caused by a microscopic blood parasite ___9___ (TRANSMIT) by mosquitoes, infects about 500 million people a year, killing about 2 million. It ___10___ (KNOW) by the ancient Chinese, and has been the curse of western civilisations, from the ancient Egyptians to the British Empire.

Julian Rayner of the Wellcome Trust Sanger Institute in Cambridge, which was part of the research effort, said it was not possible from the findings to determine exactly when the cross-infection from gorillas to humans ___11___ (TAKE) place.

"At some time it seems to have jumped the barrier from gorillas into humans but when this happened is difficult to know. One theory is that it was about 12,000 years ago, or even earlier," Dr Rayner said. "Another unanswered question is whether this jumping of the species barrier ___12___ (STILL/HAPPEN). The current data suggests it happened just once, but we don’t really know."

The study, which was published in the journal Nature, was based on an analysis of 2,700 samples of ape faeces using a novel technique that could identify and sequence the DNA of Plasmodium falciparum parasites in the animals.

© The Independent
The secret of happiness: Family, friends and your environment
Adapted from an article in The Independent, 15 August 2010, by Rachel Shields

How do you find ____0____ (CONTENT) in an acquisitive society? By changing the things you spend your money on, says a US academic.

We've suffered horrendous job cuts and falling investment values, and watched the high streets grow ____1____ (INCREASE) unattractive because of empty shopfronts, even as we face public sector job losses and the ____2____ (POSSIBLE) of a double-dip recession. We might be forgiven for allowing ourselves a moment of misery. And yet, a growing school of thought believes that we have actually gained something from the last few years of ____3____ (ECONOMY) gloom; that we are starting to value the things that matter: our friends, homes and the world we live in. Even more remarkably, they suggest that these things are making us happier than the conspicuous ____4____ (CONSUME) and hedonism of the boom years.

While, arguably, everyone could be forgiven for battening down the hatches and looking after number one, it seems that across the UK people are becoming less ____5____ (MATERIALISM) and more outward-facing: volunteering, joining clubs and caring for the environment in record numbers.

From more Brits spending their weekends involved in wholesome outdoor pursuits instead of scouring the high street for the latest must-have item, to the ____6____ (GROW) in household savings – which rose to 6.9 per cent of disposable income in the first quarter of 2010, up from less than zero in the first quarter of 2008 – experts believe there is ____7____ (EVIDENT) that people have realised that happiness may not lie in the relentless pursuit of more, and better, "stuff".

The latest figures from the British Retail Consortium show that ____8____ (RETAIL) selling big-ticket items such as flat-screen TVs, carpets and kitchens are reporting negative like-for-like sales when compared with last year, while the number of people who walk for leisure increased by almost a million, rising 10 per cent between 2006 and 2008, and the number of ____9____ (RECREATION) cyclists rose by 6.4 per cent between 2008 and 2009.

Although we may be on the cusp of a "new" happiness movement, the quest for it is as old as mankind, and has preoccupied some of the finest minds in history, all of whom have had differing theories. While a definitive answer to the question of what makes us happy might have eluded everyone from Socrates to Thomas Aquinas, a US academic now believes she has the answer.

Elizabeth Dunn argues that spending money ____10____ (WISE) is a sure-fire route to happiness, which is clearly highlighted in her new paper, "If Money Doesn't Make You Happy Then You Probably Aren't Spending it Right".

© The Independent
Pagina bianca
Pagina bianca
Pagina bianca